



# welcome to junior high

important information for rising 7<sup>th</sup> grade  
HEB ISD students and their parents

*HURST-EULESS-BEDFORD ISD: Empowering Today to Excel Tomorrow*

**WWW.HEBISD.EDU**

# GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS IN HEB ISD

## 26 TOTAL CREDITS REQUIRED

- 4 credits of English (English 1, 2, 3, 4)
- 4 credits of Math (Algebra 1 + 3 additional math courses - must include Algebra 2 for DLA)
- 4 credits of Science (Biology + 3 sciences- must include Chemistry or Physics)
- 4 credits of Social Studies (World Geography, World History, US History, US Government, Economics)
- 2 credits World Languages (same language)
- 1 credit Visual/Performing Arts (Art, Dance, Music, or Theatre)
- 1 credit Physical Education
- 1 credit Technology
- .5 credit Health or equivalent
- .5 credit Professional Communications or equivalent
- 4 credits of electives leading toward an endorsement

## 5 endorsement options

All students must earn at least one endorsement

Students may earn multiple endorsements

- arts and humanities
- business and industry
- multidisciplinary studies
  - public service
  - stem



## earn credit before 9<sup>th</sup> grade

Students in junior high may be able to start earning high school credit BEFORE 9<sup>th</sup> grade! Some courses require program entry in 7<sup>th</sup> grade through Schools of Choice, or require a pre-requisite, and not all courses are offered on each campus, or at all grade levels. Please check with your campus for available offerings.

AdvAc Algebra (8 <sup>th</sup> grade)	Business Information Management (8 <sup>th</sup> or 9 <sup>th</sup> grade)	BJH/HaJH only-Spanish Immersion (7 <sup>th</sup> , 8 <sup>th</sup> , 9 <sup>th</sup> grade)
Touch System Data Entry (7 <sup>th</sup> or 8 <sup>th</sup> grade)	BJH/HaJH only-Theatre (8 <sup>th</sup> or 9 <sup>th</sup> grade)	World Languages - Spanish 1, French 1 (2 year program with credit awarded in 8 <sup>th</sup> grade)
Professional Communications (8 <sup>th</sup> or 9 <sup>th</sup> grade)	Principles of Applied Engineering (8 <sup>th</sup> or 9 <sup>th</sup> grade)	CJH only - Arabic 1, Mandarin Chinese 1 (2 year program with credit awarded in 8 <sup>th</sup> grade)
HuJH only- Principles of Information Technology (8 <sup>th</sup> grade)	Principles of Human Services (8 <sup>th</sup> or 9 <sup>th</sup> grade)	EJH only- Honors Fundamentals of Computer Science (8 <sup>th</sup> grade)

REMEMBER - ANY COURSE THAT EARNS HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT COUNTS TOWARD GPA/CLASS RANK - EVEN IN 7<sup>TH</sup> AND 8<sup>TH</sup>

# student checklist for success

## 7<sup>th</sup> grade

- Think about what your future might be and what you need to be doing now to achieve your dreams.
- Take the most challenging courses possible.
- Learn about high school graduation requirements and start thinking about what endorsements you may want to pursue.
- Remember that if you are taking a class for high school credit, the grade you make WILL COUNT toward your Grade Point Average (GPA) and class rank, even though you are only in 7<sup>th</sup> grade!
- Practice setting and reaching SMART (Specific, Measurable, Aligned, Results-based, Time-bound) goals.
- Start saving money for college.
- Challenge and stretch yourself by participating in school clubs/activities or volunteering.
- Find adults and friends who will lift you up and encourage you to be your best.
- Build yourself a support team of parents, guardians, relatives or other trusted adults who will help you on your path to your future.

## 8<sup>th</sup> grade

- Take the Xello Matchmaker to help you determine your strongest areas of interest for future careers.
- Visit the Buinger Career and Technical Education Academy to learn about college and career options.
- Select the endorsement and program of study that best fits your area of personal interest for future college and career readiness.
- Take the PSAT 8/9 – this Practice SAT will help you identify areas of academic strength, and help you work on where you are weaker, academically.
- Recognize most college entrance requirements include rigorous academic choices, including Algebra II, higher-level science courses, and world languages.
- Recognize many career choices will require additional licensing/certifications.
- Remember, any course you are taking for high school credit WILL COUNT toward your GPA and class rank.

## 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade

- Monitor high school credits; be sure to meet all local and state requirements for graduation.
- Take Advanced Placement or dual credit courses if possible to earn college credit while still in high school.
- Explore the possibility of the International Baccalaureate program. 10<sup>th</sup> graders apply for IB and begin in 11<sup>th</sup> grade, if accepted to the program. Texas public universities award at least 24 hours of college credit to students graduating with the IB diploma.
- Keep a list of awards, honors, and extra-curricular activities for scholarship and college applications.
- Research colleges or universities you are interested in attending on Xello. It is important to check application/admission requirements, and adhere to timelines.
- Explore your areas of interest with Xello and continue to align your course selection with your career goals.
- Attend the college and career fair hosted by HEB ISD. Talk with school representatives about the majors they offer and the types of financial aid available.
- Take the PSAT (10<sup>th</sup>) to identify areas of academic strengths/weaknesses.
- Monitor your GPA/class rank.

## 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade

- Take Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, or dual credit courses if possible to earn college credit while still in high school.
- Check with your counselor's office to learn about available scholarships. Be sure to apply early and for as many scholarships as possible. Do not limit yourself to local scholarships.
- Attend college and/or career fairs hosted by HEB ISD. Talk with school representatives about the majors they offer and the types of financial aid available.
- Take the PSAT/NMSQT for National Merit Qualification.
- Consider taking SAT/ACT preparation classes.
- Sign up and take the SAT or ACT test, offered in March of your junior year during the school day for free, but if you want to re-test, preferably in your junior year but no later than the fall of your senior year.
- Continue to monitor your GPA/class rank.
- Fill out the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) early in your senior year, paying close attention to application deadlines.
- Apply to college during the fall of your senior year.

# advantages for you

There are many advantages to completing the most rigorous high school curriculum available.

- **If you graduate in the top 10% of your class you are guaranteed acceptance to any public university in Texas (UT Austin currently admits top 6%).**
- **Opportunities to complete higher (college) level coursework while still in high school**
- **College credit earned in high school saves time and money on college tuition**
- **Increased readiness for higher education**
- **Preparation for additional advanced work and research**



## helpful resources

- **Campus counselors**
- **Specific college websites**
- **Other online resources**

[www.hebisd.edu](http://www.hebisd.edu)

[www.collegeforalltexas.com](http://www.collegeforalltexas.com)

[www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)

[www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)

[www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)

[www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org)

[www.xello.com](http://www.xello.com)

[www.collegenet.com](http://www.collegenet.com)

[www.khanacademy.org](http://www.khanacademy.org)

[www.applytexas.org](http://www.applytexas.org)

[www.scholarships.com](http://www.scholarships.com)

[www.collegeanswer.com](http://www.collegeanswer.com)

## you're invited!

All 6th grade parents are invited to attend a rising 7th grade parent night at your student's junior high campus. Parents will receive important information before the junior high counselors visit with 6th graders about course requests for 7th grade. These visits will occur at your student's elementary sometime between Feb. 22 - Mar. 1 2024. Getting this information early will help you assist your student in making the best choices for junior high. See schedule below:

Bedford Junior High – Tuesday, Feb. 13, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

(in-person)

Central Junior High – Tuesday, Feb. 13, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

(in-person)

Eules Junior High – Tuesday, Feb. 13, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

(in-person)

Harwood Junior High – Thursday, Feb. 15, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

(in-person)

Hurst Junior High – Tuesday, Feb. 13, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

(virtual)

